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Serving Anson County and the Municipalities of Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

Board of Education Meeting Scheduled for January 27

Board workshop begins at 2:30 p.m.

The Anson County Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Monday, January 27 in the Administrative Office Board Meeting Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. A Board Workshop will be held at 2:30 p.m. The regular meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. with Closed Session immediately following the opening of the meeting. Open Session should begin at about 5:30 p.m.

Board of Elections Meeting Scheduled for January 27

The Anson County Board of Elections will hold a meeting on Monday, January 27 at 11 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is logic and accuracy testing of machines in preparation for the March 3 Primary Election. The meeting will be held at the Board of Elections Office, located at 402 Morven Road in Wadesboro.

Here is the agenda:

- Call to order/invocation at 11 a.m.
- Invocation
- Explanation of logic and accuracy testing
- Begin logic and accuracy testing
- Testing results and verification
- Questions, comments and other matters
- Upcoming dates review

To appear on a meeting agenda you must provide notice in writing by 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the next meeting. During all board meetings, those in attendance are asked to refrain from comments and questions to the board unless they are called upon by the board. At the end of each meeting the board will open the floor for comments and questions.

For more information call 704-994-3223.

Upcoming Dates
PRECINCT TRAINING DATES FOR MARCH PRIMARY
(Held at Board of Elections Office)

- **Monday, February 3** Ansonville, Burnsville, Gullede & White Store, 6pm
- **Wednesday, February 5** Lilesville, Morven, McFarlan, Peachland, Polkton, 6pm
- **Thursday, February 6** Wadesboro Precinct, 6pm
- **Thursday, February 6** Logic and accuracy machine testing for March 3, 2020 Primary Election, 11am
- **Monday, February 10** Early Voting training, 6pm



Bowman Senior High School Class of 1971 Held 48th Reunion

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1971 held their 48th Reunion the weekend of August 30-September 1 at the Sheraton Hotel Four Seasons in Greensboro. On Friday, August 30, after dinner at the Golden Corral Restaurant, a Meet and Greet with reminiscing was held at the hotel. On Saturday, after breakfast everyone ventured out shopping and visiting friends and relatives. On Saturday evening classmates gathered for a Meet and Greet with other classmates who were late arriving, followed by a buffet dinner and introduction of county schools - J.R. Faison, Henry Grove, McRae, West Deep Creek, West Ansonville and East Polkton. A PowerPoint slide of deceased classmates was presented by Lanette Covington Hicks, followed by a Unity Circle Prayer. Highlights from each reunion were given. Joyce Bell Bittle presented the Soul Train Express, with classmates dancing and singing to the 70's music. There were 39 classmates from 1971, and two classmates from 1972 in attendance. On Sunday morning, September 1, after breakfast, those in attendance said their "Goodbyes" and headed back home.

Toys for Tots Valentines Father/Daughter Dance

The public is invited to attend a special event presented by Anson County Toys for Tots. On Saturday, February 8 they will host a Valentine's Father/Daughter Dance. This event is for children of all ages, and the attire is Sunday's best. Refreshments will be served. Although it is called a Father/Daughter Dance, this event is for all parents to enjoy the night with their child. Feel free to come if you are a father with a son or a single mother with daughter or son - everyone is welcome! The organizers hope to make this night a memorable one for all parents and children to remember forever. The Dance will take place at the Lockhart-Taylor Center, from 6:00 to 10:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per father/daughter and \$5 for each additional child. All proceeds will go to Toys for Tots to be used to provide presents to less fortunate children at Christmas. Please see Vancine Sturdivant for tickets, or you can purchase tickets at the door. Tickets are also available at the Anson County Clerk of Court's office, located in the Anson County Courthouse. Ask for Milea Gullede, Barbara Thomas or Erica Greene. For more information call 704-848-4412.

2020 4-H Online Re-Enrollment

It's time to re-enroll your child in Anson County 4-H for 2020. Visit 4HOnline (nc.4honline.com) to access your family profile. All 4-H members and volunteers must renew their membership at the beginning of each year in order to maintain active status in this organization. If you have any questions contact the local office at 704.694.2915 or email Sam Cole at srcole3@ncsu.edu.

Early Release Next Wednesday, January 29 for All Schools

Anson County Schools will have early release Wednesday on January 29. Early release Wednesdays are designed to offer professional development for teachers and staff to support instruction. Early release time for elementary schools will be 12:30 p.m. Early release time for middle and high schools will be 1:30 p.m.

Finish Line Grants Program Helps College Students with Financial Emergencies

Has awarded more than 3,000 grants totaling over \$2 million to community college students

On Tuesday, January 14 Governor Roy Cooper announced that the Finish Line Grants program has issued more than 3,000 grants and \$2 million since the program was announced in July 2018. The Finish Line Grants program helps students stay on track to complete their degree or credential when they face unexpected financial emergencies that might otherwise cause them to drop out. Gov. Cooper made the announcement at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) in Charlotte, joined by CPCC President Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, CharlotteWorks President and CEO Danielle Frazier, and several Finish Line Grants recipients. "As students at our community colleges work hard to get skills that will help them find a job, an unforeseen challenge like a car repair shouldn't compromise their futures," said Governor Cooper. "I'm proud that the Finish Line Grants program has provided more than 3,000 grants to help students find good-paying jobs to support themselves and their families for years to come." As of the end of 2019, more than 3,300 Finish Line Grants have been awarded to students at a total of \$2.2 million. The fifth semester of the program began this month. Governor Cooper announced the Finish Line Grants program in July 2018 after hearing from community college leaders that relatively small financial emergencies were causing students to drop out of their degree or credential program when they otherwise could have graduated. Grants were first made available in September of 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. "It's hard to overstate the importance of an educated and well-trained workforce," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland. "The Finish Line Grants program is one more tangible way North Carolina supports and develops its future workers, and companies notice and appreciate this commitment." All of North Carolina's 58 community colleges and 23 workforce development boards are participating in the program. Community colleges and workforce development boards collaborate to apply for funding and establish a joint process for reviewing funding requests from students who have completed 50 percent of their degree or credential. Community college students may receive a maximum of \$1,000 per semester by contacting their community colleges' financial aid office or their local NCWorks Career Center to apply. "I am always amazed at how a relatively small amount of money can change someone's life forever and do so much good for our families and our communities," added Governor Cooper. Eligible expenses for Finish Line Grants include car repair payments, medical bills, utility bills, and child care expenses. To ensure accountability, the grants are commonly paid directly to the car repair shop, doctor's office, utility or child care provider. "A temporary financial emergency shouldn't stop a student's momentum toward graduation and a brighter future," said Peter Hans, president of the NC Community College System. "Finish Line Grants are helping our students overcome barriers to success. We are so grateful for the support." Lexine Merrill, a Finish Line Grants awardee and current nursing student, joined Governor Cooper at today's announcement. "The Finish Line grant relieved difficult financial burdens that were heavy on me and that had the potential to hinder my future prospects," said Merrill. "This grant allowed me the opportunity to continue moving toward my finish line - graduating and working in my career field." Governor Cooper will also join Alamance Community College President Dr. Algie Gatewood, Regional Partnership Workforce Development Board Director Tammy Wall, and Finish Line Grants recipients at Alamance Community College to spread awareness about the Finish Line Grants program and this funding milestone. To learn more about the Finish Line Grants program, visit www.nccommerce.com and search for "Finish Line Grants."

Austin Kiker Photography Exhibit at the Library

Kiker to host program at the library on Thursday, January 30

The Hampton B. Allen Library will be featuring a photography exhibit by professional photographer Austin Kiker. Austin's exhibit will be on display throughout the library through February 29. The exhibit will be open to the public. Austin specializes in landscape, wildlife and lifestyle photography. On Thursday, January 30 at 10:00 a.m. Austin will host a program in the Pritchett room to share about his work and where he gets his inspiration. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this special event. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

Grand Opening of REV Uptown is Next Wednesday, January 29



The public is invited to the Official Grand Opening of REV Uptown on Wednesday, January 29 at 10 a.m. The event will take place at 114 West Wade Street in uptown Wadesboro. Light refreshments will be served. In March 2019 the Anson Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) announced Project REV, a business incubator and co-working space to be located in Uptown Wadesboro. The facility, REV Uptown, located at 114 West Wade Street in a building that originally housed a Roses store and, more recently, offices of the Employment Security Commission, features a visitor center, offices for the Anson County Chamber of Commerce, AnsonEDP, Uptown Wadesboro, the Anson County Tourism Development Authority and a coffee bar. Three private offices, four semi-private co-workstations and co-working flex space for an additional 8-10 enterprises around out the 3,400 square foot facility. "REV stands for Rural Economic Vibrancy. Rural communities either have to find new and innovative ways to compete in the 21st century economy or they are going to fade to irrelevance," commented Janine Rywak, Chairman of the AEDC Board of Directors. "With the REV project, Anson County firmly establishes itself as an innovator, a competitor and a survivor. A lot of people had to come together to make a project of this scope work here in our uptown, and we are grateful to all of our extremely supportive public and private sector partners, including Anson County, the Town of Wadesboro, South Piedmont Community College (SPCC), Leake and Anne Bennett Little, and the boards of our fellow community organizations." Co-working flex space at REV Uptown starts at \$50/month, a price point well below similar facilities in Charlotte and the more proximate suburbs. In addition to office space, REV Uptown members have access to specialized training programs and ongoing business support services through the SPCC Small Business Center, as well as the resources of the Chamber of Commerce, tourism, economic development and uptown development. The Office as a Service (OaaS) model creates a 'one stop shop' for entrepreneurial development. Early stage startups waste up to half their time dealing with things like utilities, furniture and office supplies. By offering these essentials to them as a service, co-working spaces free up their time to focus on building a customer base, refining products or services and growing their business. REV Uptown is currently accepting applications for membership on its website, www.REV-Anson.com. For more information about the REV project, contact John Marek, Director of AnsonEDP, at johnm@AnsonEDP.com or (704) 690-4936.

Connections Family Support Group Meets Monthly

For those serving children with emotional, learning or behavioral challenges

On the third Thursday of the month at the Hampton B. Allen Library in the Bookmobile Room, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., the Connections Family Support Program holds a group meeting for parents, grandparents and foster parents serving children with emotional, learning or behavioral challenges. Refreshments and resources will be provided free. For more information contact Suzanne Maness, Family Advocate, at 877-211-5995 (toll free) or email connectionsfsp@gmail.com.

Free Movie is Sunrise in Heaven

The Hampton B. Allen Library announces the free movie *Sunrise in Heaven* showing on Monday, January 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Little Theatre. *Sunrise in Heaven* is a 2019 American romance film directed by Waymon Boone and written by Dan Benamor. The film stars Corbin Bernsen, Caylee Cowan, Dee Wallace, Travis Burns, Erin Bethea and Jenn Gotzon. It is based on the book, *His Sunrise My Sunset*, a 2016 romance novel by American author Jan Hurst. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the movie. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

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